

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SNM-02 DEAE-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 /075 W

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R 091000Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2561

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

DEA BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL MANDALAY

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SNAR, IBRD, BM

SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #44, NOVEMBER 2-9

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1. POPPY FIELD DESTRUCTION BEGINS (LOU)

ACCORDING TO UNFDAC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER U ZAW WIN, WHO TALKED TO ONE OF THE GUB OFFICIALS INVOLVED, THE GUB LAST WEEK BEGAN DESTRUCTION OF OPIUM POPPY FIELDS IN THE CHIN HILLS. A U.S.-PROVIDED HELICOPTER IS BEING USED IN THE OPERATION, HE SAID.

COMMENT: THE 1976-77 POPPY-GROWING SEASON IS JUST NOW BEGINNING, AND IT APPEARS THE GUB IS MOVING PROMPTLY TO CONTINUE THE POPPY DESTRUCTION EFFORT BEGUN LAST YEAR.

2. MCNAMARA VISITS (LOU)

WORLD BANK PRESIDENT ROBERT MCNAMARA AND PARTY DEPARTED RANGOON ON NOVEMBER 3 AFTER A THREE-DAY VISIT (WEEK #43, ITEM 9). DURING HIS STAY IN BURMA MR. MCNAMARA MET WITH PRESIDENT NE WIN, PRIME MINISTER SEIN WIN AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE GUB MINISTERS AND TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS. HE ALSO VISITED AREAS IN THE IRRAWADDY DELTA COVERED BY THE IBRD LOAN FOR PADDY DEVELOPMENT. THE WORLD BANK PRESIDENT STATED UPON ARRIVAL THAT THE IBRD, IN LINE WITH THE GUB'S "READINESS TO IMPLEMENT THE NECESSARY AND OFTEN DIFFICULT MEASURES THAT CONSTITUTE THE BASIS OF ANY SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT EFFORT," STOOD READY TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY THAT IT CAN. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR OSBORN, MR. MCNAMARA EXPRESSED ENTHUSIASM ABOUT BURMA'S DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL.

COMMENT: GUB OFFICIALS UNDOUBTEDLY SOUGHT MCNAMARA'S ASSURANCE OF IBRD SUPPORT FOR THE AID CONSULTATIVE GROUP IN ANTICIPATION OF THE MEETING OF POTENTIAL DONORS AT TOKYO ON NOVEMBER 30. JUDGING FROM THE WORLD BANK PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS, THIS ASSURANCE WAS PROVIDED.

3. MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY VISITS JAPAN (LOU)

GUB MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY (2) COL. MAUNG CHO DEPARTED FOR TOKYO ON NOVEMBER 8. THE MINISTER WILL HOLD TALKS ON BILATERAL GOJ ASSISTANCE FOR BURMA, AND HE IS SCHEDULED TO REMAIN IN JAPAN THROUGH THE CONSULTATIVE DONOR GROUP MEETING ON NOVEMBER 30.

4. USIS ELECTION CENTER DRAWS THOUSANDS (UNCL)

ON U.S. ELECTION DAY, WHILE 468 INVITED GUESTS VIEWED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DETAILED STATE-BY-STATE ELECTION RESULTS ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE AMERICAN CENTER, MORE THAN 10,000 PERSONS VISITED THE ELECTIONS EXHIBIT ON THE FIRST FLOOR AND SCORES MORE STOOD OUTSIDE THE CENTER TO RECEIVE COMPREHENSIVE RESULTS. AMERICAN TOURISTS AND MEMBERS OF THE WORLD BANK DELEGATION DROPPED BY THE CENTER FOR THE LATEST RESULTS AS THEY WERE POSTED ON FOUR TOTE BOARDS. A STRAW POLL CONDUCTED IN A MODEL ELECTION BOOTH

REFLECTED THE U.S. RESULTS EXACTLY, CATER 51 PERCENT,
FORD 48 PERCENT AND MCCARTHY 1 PERCENT.

5. INFORMATION MINISTER PRESENTS CULTURAL GUIDELINES (LOU)

INFORMATION MINISTER U LWIN MET WITH MOVIE DIRECTORS,
FILM COMPANY OWNERS, FILM PRODUCERS AND BBS PERSONNEL
TO PRESENT THE FORMAL AND FINAL GUIDELINES ON CULTURAL
ACTIVITIES LAID DOWN BY THE BSPP. DURING 1976, THERE
HAVE BEEN THREE OTHER MEETINGS TO LAY OUT SUGGESTIONS
BY BOTH THE MINISTRY AND THE CULTURAL LEADERS AND
ARTISTES. THESE PROPOSALS WERE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS ON OCTOBER 26. THERE WAS LITTLE NEW IN
THE 33-POINT SCHEME WHICH SETS FORTH GUIDANCE TO BUILD
A SOCIALIST SOCIETY AND TO DEFEND AND PRESERVE BURMESE
CULTURE FROM ALIEN INFLUENCES.

IN A RELATED MOVE, THE INFORMATION MINISTRY ANNOUNCED
THE FORMATION OF A FILM-PRODUCING COOPERATIVE, CHARGED
WITH MAKING FILMS WITHIN THE NEW GUIDELINES. COOPERATIVE-
MADE FILMS WILL RECEIVE FIRST PRIORITY FOR RAW MATERIAL
AND OTHER SUPPORT, AND PRIVATE PRODUCERS WILL FIND
THEMSELVES UNABLE TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION TO PRODUCE
FILMS UNLESS THEY STRICTLY HEW TO THE GUIDELINES.

6. BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS (LOU)

FOLLOWING THE EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS REPORTED
LAST WEEK, THE BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MET IN RANGOON
NOVEMBER 1-2. THE MOST IMPORTANT RESOLUTION OF THE
MEETING CONFIRMED THE PARTY PURGE OF RECENT MONTHS BY
APPROVING THE TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF 54,193
MEMBERS. OTHER RESOLUTIONS APPROVED VARIOUS REPORTS,
INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR THE THIRD FOUR-YEAR PLAN,
AND DEALT WITH PARTY ADMINISTRATIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL
PROCEDURES.

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7. COUP PLOT TRIAL (LOU)

DURING THE WEEK THE COURT CONTINUED TO HEAR CROSS-
EXAMINATION OF PROSECUTION WITNESSES BY DEFENSE COUNSEL.
AT THE NOVEMBER 2 HEARING, FORMER DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE
SERVICES INTELLIGENCE COL. AUNG HTAY WAS ASKED IF HE
COULD RECOUNT VERBATIM IN ENGLISH WHAT THE AMBASSADOR
TOLD HIM AND COL. TIN OO DURING THEIR MEETING AT DAGON
HOUSE ON JULY 3. THE COLONEL STUCK TO HIS PREVIOUS
TESTIMONY, AND REPLIED IN ANSWER TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS
THAT HE HAD NOT SUGGESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR APPEAR IN
COURT, NOR HAD HE REQUESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR SIGN A
WRITTEN STATEMENT CONTAINING WHAT CAPT. OHN KYAW MYINT HAD
SAID WHEN HE CAME TO THE RESIDENCE SEEKING ASYLUM.

8. THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE (UNCL)

THE BURMESE PRESS ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER 8 THAT A MAN AND HIS SON HELD FOR OVER 12 YEARS WITHOUT CHARGES HAVE BEEN RELEASED. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, U YIN SIN PHYN AND HIS SON U YAN KYA MIN WERE ARRESTED IN TAUNGGYI IN 1964. IN 1975 THE MEN'S FAMILY ASKED THAT THE CASE BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL. AFTER DELAY UNTIL NOVEMBER 1976, THE PROSECUTOR SAID THE HE "HAD NOTHING SPECIAL TO SAY IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR CASE." THE COURT RELEASED THE TWO MEN, NOTING THAT IF THEY WERE GUILTY OF AN OFFENSE THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN TRIED SOMETIME DURING THE LAST 12 YEARS.

OSBORN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO03726
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760417-0550
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761166/aaaacfie.tel
Line Count: 182
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT WEEKA #44, NOVEMBER 2-9 CONTENTS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SNAR, BM, IBRD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006